

Detailed Action

1. By an amendment received March 17, 2004 the pending claims are 67-93.

Claims 1-66 and 94-116 are cancelled.

2.

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

Claims 67, 72, 80, 85 and 93 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Suzuki (6,452,688).

With respect to claim 67, Suzuki teaches an information processing apparatus 12 (shown by figure 4) for data transmission and reception to and from an external apparatus (16, 17) via network 15, comprising: a storage means (RAM 31) for storing a transmission (communication management information, according to col. 12, lines 63-65) and a data file (col. 12, lines 59-62); and transmission/reception control means (cpu1, modem 8, ncu 9 and RAM 3) for controlling the data transmission /reception of the data to/from the external apparatus in accordance with the transmission file. See col. 12, lines 40-65.

With respect to claim 72, Suzuki teaches wherein the information processing apparatus 12 is applied to a system 15 in which the external apparatus (fax 16 and 17) prints the data file in accordance with a print request from a document processing apparatus 14.

With respect to claim 80, Suzuki teaches a data transmission method for an information processing apparatus 14 for data transmission/reception to /from an external apparatus via a network 15 comprising:

Art Unit: 2625

A storage step (implemented by RAM 3 of storing a transmission data file and a data file in a storage of the information processing apparatus 14); and a transmission/reception control step (implemented by CPU 1, modem 8, NCU 9, RAM 3) for controlling the data file to and from the external apparatus 16, 17.

With respect to claim 85, Suzuki teaches wherein the data transmission method (implemented by machine 12), is applied to a system 15 in which the external apparatus (16, 17) prints the data file in accordance with a print request from a document processing apparatus 14.

With respect to claim 93, Suzuki teaches a machine readable storage medium ROM 2 storing a data transmission program (see col. 12, lines 52-55) for an information processing apparatus 14 for data transmission/reception to and from an external apparatus 16, 17 via network 15, the program comprising:

A storage step (implemented by RAM 3 of storing a transmission data file and a data file in a storage of the information processing apparatus 14); and a transmission/reception control step (implemented by CPU 1, modem 8, NCU 9, RAM 3) for controlling the data file to and from the external apparatus 16, 17.

3.

Claims Objected to As Containing Allowable Matter

Claims 68-71, 73-79, 81-84 and 86-92 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

4.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jerome Grant II whose telephone number is 571-272-7463. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri. from 9:00 to 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward Coles, can be reached on 571-272-7402. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Jerome Grant II/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2625